

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of The Study

Literature is a fictional writing that has something to do with a real life. Nurgiyantoro stated that fiction describes the problems of human life in their interaction with the behavior and the interaction with their self, and also the interaction with God. Fiction is the result of dialogue, completion and the reaction of author toward environment and life. Fiction is an imaginative work that is based on the awareness and responsibility in terms of creativity as a work of art. Fiction offers models of life as idealized by the author also shows the figure as artwork dominant aesthetic element (3).

According to Wicaksono literature is a form of creativity in language, contains a series of inner experience and imagination that comes from living the social reality of the author. Literary work is a form and the work of art which the object is a human being and life by using language as a medium. Literary work is the imagination on the realities of life, it is a portrait of a society that can be enjoyed, understood, and can be utilized by the community. A literary work is created based on the inner experience of the author or interesting problems that arise ideas and imagination as outlined in the written form (2).

Tarigan said that fiction describes about life, both physical and psychological, body and spiritual. The ideal life is a life in which there is harmony between the physical and spiritual. Henry said, life is not just to fill the stomach, but no less important is the brain and the inner filling respectively (118).

Using literary work, author can express his views about life around him. Therefore, appreciate literature means trying to find the value of life which reflected in the work. Literature is produced through a long process of reflection about the nature of life. Literature is touch of soul which is packaged in a deep imagination about life (Alfian 2).

Thus, Nurgiyantoro and Wicaksono with their ideas of literature describing about human life, while Tarigan with his ideas of literature describing on the realities of life, it can be said that literature cannot be separated from human life.

One of literary works that is a novel which has reflection of human life is a novel "*The Fault in Our Stars*" by John Green. John Michael Green (born August 24, 1977) is an American author of young adult fiction, youtube video blogger (vlogger), historian and creator of online educational videos. Green's first novel, *Looking for Alaska* (based on his own boarding school experience), won the 2006 Michael L. Printz Award presented by the American Library Association, and made the ALA 2005 Top 10 Best Book for Young Adults. The film rights to *Looking for Alaska* were purchased by Paramount in 2005 and the movie scheduled to be released in 2013. His second novel, *An Abundance of Katherines* (2006), was a 2007 Michael L. Printz Award Honor Book, a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize, and may also be made into a movie in the future. Green collaborated on a book with fellow young adult authors Maureen Johnson and Lauren Myracle called *Let It Snow* (2008), which contains three interconnected short stories that take place in the same small town on Christmas Eve during a massive snowstorm. The story that he penned is called "A

Cheertastic Christmas Miracle". On November 27, 2009, the book reached number 10 on the *New York Times* bestseller list for paperback children's books.

Green's third novel, *Paper Towns* (2008), debuted at number 5 on the *New York Times* bestseller list for children's books, and the movie rights to *Paper Towns* have been optioned, with Green hired to write the screenplay. *Paper Towns* was awarded the 2009 Edgar Award for Best Young Adult Novel and the 2010 Corine Literature Prize. Green collaborated with fellow young adult writer and friend David Levithan on the 2010 book entitled *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*, and Green appeared on the Smart Mouths Podcast to discuss the book and collaboration.

Before Green's fifth book, *The Fault in Our Stars*, was released in 2012, he agreed to sign all 150,000 copies of the first printing, as well as his wife and his brother leaving their own symbols, a Yeti and an Anglerfish respectively. The *New York Times* Best Seller List for Children's Books listed the book at 1 within weeks (<http://www.litlovers.com/reading-guides/15-young-adult-fiction>).

Braun said that one of popular figures in this modern era is John Green. *The Fault in Our Stars* began to climb best seller lists. John Green tracked the sales ranking on Amazon. He has published five novels, achieving decent and reviews. Every time he refreshing the Amazon page for his book, the sale was increase a lot. He realized that something big will happen, something amazing. *The Fault in Our Stars* was no 1 book in Amazon (Eric Braun 7).

*The Fault in Our Stars* is one of literary works that can be analyzed using the psychological approach. It tells about teenager in behavior dealing with his

problems in daily lives. Augustus waters, he is seventeen years old. Augustus had cancer called osteosarcoma, it is one and a half years ago. Augustus lives with his parents who love him so much, although he has cancer but it is not make his parents and friends avoid him. In reality nobody wants to feel as Augustus life, but this is happen in Augustus life. Augustus is worry with his health, he is afraid to face the death and eventually be forgotten. He feels fear and depression which is reflected in reality anxiety. From the circumstances he felt this fear and depression, the author wants to make as the title of the thesis.

In the analysis, the writer is interested in analyzing the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel, which is Augustus Waters because from the psychological point of view, he does not have a normal teenager. He is suffering of cancer since he is teenager. In the psychoanalysis study, the unfulfilled needs that Augustus endure in his daily lives becomes threats and challenges. These threats and challenges produce anxiety inside them. He is the best friend of Isaac and Hazel Grace's boyfriend. As with his girlfriend, he suffers from cancer, particularly osteosarcoma. Augustus is described as being tall, very handsome, intelligent, having blue eyes and mahogany hair. He is afraid to be forgotten, as he wants to make a mark on the world. He hates the idea of not being able to leave a mark at all, due to his diagnosis of cancer and its later-on terminal attribute. Augustus knew Isaac before the Support Group, the single and sole reason he was there was because he wanted to support Isaac, before undergoing surgery.

Augustus constantly symbolized the situations at hand. One example is his tendency to put an unlit cigarette in his mouth, something of a trademark of his: "It's a metaphor, see: you put the killing thing right between your teeth, but you don't give it the power to do its killing".

From the explanation above, the writer chooses *The Fault in Our Stars* to be analyzed using the psychological approach. It is used to understand and to explain the behavior of the main characters in the novel. Therefore, the writer conducts a research with thesis title "Augustus Waters's Anxiety by John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*".

## 1.2 Statement of Problems

Related to the background of study, the writer will focus to Augustus Waters as main character. In this case, this study formulates the research question as follows:

1. How is Augustus Waters characterized in *The Fault in Our Stars*?
2. What are Augustus Waters's personality in *The Fault in Our Stars*?
3. What kind of Augustus Waters's anxiety in *The Fault in Our Stars*?

## 1.3 Objective of Study

Referring to the problems above, this study has objectives as follows:

1. To describe about the characterized of Augustus Waters in *The Fault in Our Stars*.

2. To describe about the personality of Augustus Waters in *The Fault in Our Stars*.
3. To describe the anxiety of Augustus Waters in *The Fault in Our Stars*.

#### **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

The scope of this research discusses about the main character on *The Fault in Our Stars* written by John Green, Augustus who experiences anxiety in his life. Whereas, the limitation focuses on Augustus's character and his anxiety. In other words, this research will take more discussion about anxiety studied through psychological criticism.

#### **1.5 Significance of the study**

The result of this research is expected to give the benefit to the reader and the researcher. The reader of the novel "*The Fault in Our Stars*" can get the result as new information from this research. The reader will know about everything that has relation with the character of Augustus Waters from the novel. Especially, the personality and the anxiety of Augustus Waters. Then, the result of this research is expected can give inspiration and also advantage to the other researcher that will do the same study for other novel.

This research is also expected to give the benefit to the students at State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. The student of State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya especially for student of English literature can use the result of the research as a material to the next research.

#### **1.6 Method of the Study**

The writer conducts the research by using the descriptive qualitative method. This research is based on the comprehension of main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel, which is evaluated from psychological approach specially psychoanalysis theory. The collected data is analysed using the related theories or approaches, such the organization of personality and anxiety on Freud. These theories are applied to reveal and to understand the main character in the fault in our stars novel.

The main instrument of the research is writer herself through deep reading the novel, underlining the text that is related to the explanation of psychological. The writer collected data from many sources; they are books, e-books and online resources that are related to the study. There are some steps that the writer used in order to present the analysis:

- a.) Reading novel *The Fault in Our Stars* intensively and decide the topic of the study.
- b.) Collecting data from many source about the topic of study, including the theories which are suitable with the topic. They are the Freud's psychoanalysis which talks about organization of personality and anxiety.
- c.) Selecting data in forms of narrations and conversations in the novel which is related to the focus of the study, Augustus Waters and his fears.
- d.) Analyzing the selected data with the theories.
- e.) Concluding the analysis.